## AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS/Cloture

SUBJECT: Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2000 ... S. 1233. Lott motion to close debate.

## **ACTION: CLOTURE MOTION REJECTED, 50-37**

**SYNOPSIS:** As reported, S. 1233, the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2000, will provide \$60.710 billion in new budget authority (of which \$13.98 billion will be discretionary budget authority, which is the amount provided in fiscal year 1999) for fiscal year 2000. Loan authorizations will total \$9.650 billion.

The Feinstein amendment would require a health plan to pay for any treatment that a treating physician advocated for one of its policy holders if the treatment was "medically necessary or appropriate" and was a covered benefit. The term "medically necessary or appropriate" would be defined, with respect to a service or benefit, to mean a service or benefit which was consistent with generally accepted principles of professional medical practice. In other words, a health plan would be required to pay for any generally accepted treatment recommended by a physician, regardless of whether that treatment was common, cost effective, or had been substantiated in controlled clinical trials (only 20 percent of clinical procedures in common use have been substantiated in such trials), and regardless of whether any alternative treatment existed that had been proven to be more effective.

On June 24, 1999, Senator Lott sent to the desk, for himself and others, a motion to close debate on the bill.

NOTE: A three-fifths majority (60) vote is required to invoke cloture.

Democratic Senators began a filibuster of all legislation beginning on June 21, 1999. They indicated that they would oppose the consideration of all legislation, including all appropriations bills that must be passed to continue the operations of the Federal Government, until the Senate considered a bill regarding health insurance, without any limitations on the length of the debate and without any limitations on the number of amendments that could be offered. They began by stalling consideration of the Agriculture Appropriations Bill. They opposed cloture on the Agriculture Appropriations Bill, and they opposed even beginning consideration

(See other side)

YEAS (50)			NAYS (37)			NOT VOTING (13)	
Republicans Democrats (50 or 100%) (0 or 0%)		Republicans	Democrats		Republicans Democrats		
		(0 or 0%)	(0 or 0%)	(37 or 100%)		(5)	(8)
Abraham Allard Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brownback Bunning Burns Campbell Chafee Cochran Collins Coverdell Craig Crapo DeWine Domenici Enzi Fitzgerald Frist Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hagel	Hatch Helms Hutchison Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Nickles Roberts Roth Santorum Sessions Shelby Smith, Bob Smith, Gordon Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Voinovich Warner			Akaka Baucus Bayh Biden Bingaman Breaux Bryan Byrd Cleland Conrad Daschle Dorgan Durbin Feingold Feinstein Graham Harkin Hollings Inouye	Johnson Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Landrieu Leahy Levin Lincoln Mikulski Moynihan Murray Reed Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Schumer Wyden	Gorton-² Hutchinson-² Inhofe-² Jeffords-² Murkowski-²  Murkowski-²  EXPLANAT 1—Official E 2—Necessari 3—Illness 4—Other  SYMBOLS: AY—Annour AN—Annour PY—Paired I	ly Absent nced Yea nced Nay Yea

VOTE NO. 184 JUNE 28, 1999

of the Transportation Appropriations Bill, the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations Bill, and the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill (see vote Nos. 184-187). After those votes, a unanimous consent agreement was reached to define the terms under which health insurance legislation would be considered beginning July 12, 1999, and ending July 15, 1999, and the filibuster ended.

For debate, see vote No. 181.